

REMARKS

I. Objections to the Claims

The Examiner has objected to claims 10, 13, 14, 16, 18 and 20, but has indicated that claims 10, 13, 14, 16, 18 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant submits that the remarks below regarding claims 2, 4, 6 and 8 sufficiently address the Examiner's objections to claims 10, 13, 14, 16, 18 and 20 by virtue of their respective dependency on claims 2, 4, 6 and 8.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 4, 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Bernard et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 3,869,711; hereinafter "*Bernard*") in view of *Albrecht et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,689,384; hereinafter "*Albrecht*").

As an initial matter, regarding claims 2, 4, 6 and 8, the Examiner concedes that *Bernard* fails to teach or suggest that the first head is a DC demagnetizing head that magnetizes or erases at least a servo band and that the second head is a servo band write head that writes servo signals on the servo band. However, the Examiner asserts that *Albrecht* teaches those features that *Bernard* does not. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

Claim 2 recites the unique feature of requiring a servo write head and a DC demagnetizing head that are integrally configured. *See* claim 2 of the present application. Claim 4 recites similar features. The present invention thus requires that the servo write head and the

DC demagnetizing head be integrally configured. *Bernard*, by contrast, fails to disclose this unique feature.

The Examiner does not point out exactly where the *Bernard* reference teaches or suggests this feature. In particular, the Examiner only asserts that “figures 1 and 2, items 24, 26 and 10” show this feature. *See Office Action*, pg. 3. However, Applicant notes that Figs. 1 and 2 of *Bernard* show a first magnetic head 24, and a second magnetic head 26 positioned separate and apart from one another. In other words, the first and second magnetic heads are not integrally configured in *Bernard*. Indeed, *Bernard* is completely silent on this feature. As a result, Applicant respectfully submits that *Bernard* fails to teach or suggest all of the required features of claims 2 and 4.

Additionally, Applicant notes that the technical field of *Bernard* relates to “magnetic transfer.” *See Bernard*, col. 1, line 22. In *Bernard*, the transfer of the desired pattern to the magnetic tape 16 is actually performed through the drum (*see Bernard*, col. 2, line 56-60), and is not directly performed through the head 26. Therefore, the invention disclosed in *Bernard* is clearly different from that claimed in the present application.

Furthermore, *Albrecht* does not cure the deficiency of *Bernard*. *Albrecht* merely discloses a timing based system for servo magnetic tape systems. *See Albrecht*, Abstract. Moreover, *Albrecht* fails to teach or suggest a servo writer having a servo write head and a DC demagnetizing head that are integrally configured, as the claims require. In other words, while *Albrecht* discloses a use of the DC-erased magnetic tape (*see Albrecht*, col. 22, line 66), but

Albrecht provides no detailed suggestion or indication of the provisioning of the head, i.e., no teaching or suggestion of an integrally formed head for erasing.

Therefore, neither *Albrecht* nor *Bernard* teach or suggest all of the required features of claims 2 and 4. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2 and 4 are patentable over the disclosure of *Bernard*, in view of *Albrecht*. Additionally, Applicant submits claims 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16, 18 and 20 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependency on claims 2 and 4.

III. New Dependent Claims

Applicant herein adds new dependent claims 21-24.

IV. Claim Amendments

Applicant herein amends claims 10, 13 and 14 for clarity. No new matter has been added.

V. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

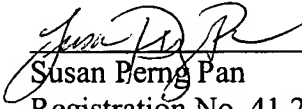
Respectfully submitted,

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